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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

ATTN: SPECIAL HANDLING

DEC 3 1 2003 Masahiro SUGIHARA et al.

SUBMISSION: OFFICE OF PETITIONS

Docket No. 2001-1733A

Serial No. 10/073,253

Group Art Unit 1734

Filed February 13, 2002

Examiner Laura E. Edwards

COATING APPARATUS

Confirmation No. 4419

RECEIVED

JAN 05 2004

PETITION UNDER 37 CFR 1.313(c)(2) TO WITHDRAW APPLICATION FROM ISSUANCE

OFFICE OF PETITIONS

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Applicants in the above-referenced U.S. patent application hereby petition to withdraw the above-referenced application from issuance under 37 CFR 1.313(c)(2), i.e. for the consideration of Request for Continued Examination in compliance with §1.114.

The petition fee as set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(h) is enclosed.

Furthermore, enclosed is the Request for Continued Examination along with its accompanying submission, an Information Disclosure Statement citing additional prior art.

Applicants request withdrawal of the application from issuance to have the Request for Continued Examination entered and the Information Disclosure Statement considered so that prior

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art cited in a European Search Report dated November 28, 2003 may be considered in this application. Applicants further make such request to ensure compliance with the duty of disclosure for this application.

Respectfully submitted,

Masahiro SUGHARA et al.

By:

Nils E. Pedersen Registration No. 33,145 Attorney for Applicants

NEP/krg Washington, D.C. 20006-1021 Telephone (202) 721-8200 Facsimile (202) 721-8250 December 31, 2003

THE COMMISSIONER IS AUTHORIZED TO CHARGE ANY DEFICIENCY IN THE FEES FOR THIS PAPER TO DEPOSIT ACCOUNT NO. 23-0975